Proceedings of the Mysore Representative Assembly.

DASARA SESSION—OCTOBER 1929.

FIRST DAY—*14th October 1929.*

The Dasara Session of the Representative Assembly was held in the Jagan Mohan Palace Pavilion, Mysore, commencing at 12 noon on the 14th October 1929.

The Dewan and Members of Council took their seats precisely at 12 noon.

The names of members prrsent are given as an Appendix.

The proceedings were opened by the Dewan with the following address:—

PART I

GENTLEMEN OF THE REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY,

It is my privilege and pleasure to welcome you to another session, and to place before you a survey of the policy and the practical activities of Government in the many directions in which our energies have been employed.

His Excellency the Viceroy's Visit.

Let me first refer to His Excellency the Viceroy's approaching visit. You will be gratified to hear that His Excellency the Viceroy has been pleased to accept the invitation of His Highness the Maharaja to pay a second visit to Mysore next month, and will spend a week in the State. His Excellency is sure to receive an exceptionally cordial welcome, for Mysore owes him a special debt of gratitude.

Seasonal Conditions.

The seasonal conditions were, as you know, far from satisfactory till about four weeks ago, especially in the

maidan districts. Scarcity of fodder was keenly felt in many taluks, and necessary action was taken to relieve the situation by throwing open State Forests for grazing. The question of providing relief in other ways was also under consideration. But, thanks to the copious rains that fell all over the State in September, the situation has greatly improved and all fear of acute distress has disappeared.

Financial.

It gives me great pleasure to inform you that the finances of last year, as shown by the actuals, are better than the expectations formed in the Revised Estimate which I presented to you in June last. We had anticipated that the total revenue would amount to Rs. 369·98 lakhs and the total expenditure chargeable to Revenue to Rs. 365·55 lakhs, with a surplus of Rs. 4·43 lakhs, of which it was proposed to transfer Rs. 4·13 lakhs to the Special Reserve. As will be seen from the statements appended to the second part of this address, the total revenue realisation of the year stands at Rs. 374·58 lakhs, the gross expenditure, excluding adjustments, at Rs. 375·04 lakhs, and the expenditure chargeable to the revenues of the year at Rs. 368·25 lakhs. The result of the year's transactions is thus a revenue surplus of Rs. 6·33 lakhs, showing an improvement of about a couple of lakhs over the Revised Estimate.

This improvement is due to several causes and, may broadly be attributed to the better sales of sandal oil and also to the fact that the realisations from the Timber Creosoting Plant were not fully taken into account in framing the Revised Estimate under Forest.

Compared with the budget, the rise in revenue is Rs. 18½ lakhs. The revenue heads which have contributed to this improvement are Forest including Sandal Oil net receipts (Rs. 12 lakhs), Excise (Rs. 4½ lakhs), Stamps (Rs. 1 lakh), Interest (Rs. 2 lakhs) and Communications and Civil Works (Rs. 2½ lakhs). The net receipts under Railways have shown a decline of about Rs. 2½ lakhs owing chiefly to payment of heavy arrears of net receipts due to the Kolar District Board.

Out of the realised surplus of Rs. 6·33 lakhs, it is proposed to give an additional grant of Rs. 2·07 lakhs to the Road Fund in view of the urgent demands for the improvement of roads and communications, and to transfer a

sum of Rs. 3·70 lakhs to the Special Reserve. The account surplus of the year will thus be Rs. ·56 lakh. The position of the reserves at the end of last year is as follows :—

Particulars	Balance on 1st July 1928	Net Credits + or Debits —	Closing Balance on 30th June 1929
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Special Reserve ..	6·38	+3·70	10·08
Irrigation Capital Reserve ..	3·76	—1·66	2·10
Irrigation Cess Fund ..	11·29	—2·88	8·41
Road Fund ..	..	+2·13	2·13
Total ..	21·43	+1·29	22·72

From the above statement it will be seen that the credits to the Reserve Funds will exceed the debits by about Rs. 1¼ lakhs, and the improved revenue position of the year has enabled Government to balance the two sides of the Budget, and at the same time to strengthen the Reserves.

In the current year we have, as you are aware, budgetted for a total revenue realisation of Rs. 371 lakhs, and have provided for a programme of expenditure chargeable to Revenue of about the same amount. I need only mention here one important additional item of revenue expenditure. I refer to the expenditure of Rs. 3 lakhs provided in connection with His Excellency the Viceroy's Visit in November next.

Triennial Results.

I should like to place before you a few figures indicating the general trend of our finances in the last three years, and the prospect for the near future under normal conditions.

The statistics are shown in two parts. Under Revenue, Part I comprises the Principal Heads of Revenue, Assigned Tract Revenue, Mining Revenue and Receipts from Service Departments, while Part II includes the Receipts from Financial Investments and Productive Works. Similarly, the expenditure is classified in two groups—Part I comprising all the Heads of Service Expenditure except Interest and Sinking Funds, which are shown separately under Part II.

In Lakhs of Rupees.

Head of Revenue or Expenditure	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29
REVENUE.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
PART I.			
Principal Heads of Revenue .. Assigned Tract Revenue .. .. Mining Revenue .. .. Receipts from Service Departments ..	288·15	299·77	313·59
PART II.			
Interest and net receipts from Productive Works	50 55	61·04	60·99
Total, Parts I and II ..	338·70	360·81	374·58
EXPENDITURE.			
PART I.			
Service Expenditure including Charges against Mining Revenue ..	301·48	313·84	318·72
PART II.			
Interest and Loan Sinking Fund ..	53·14	54·55	56·32
Grand Total, I and II ..	354·62	368·39	375·04

From the above statement of actuals it will be seen that in the triennium under review, the revenues have shown an aggregate improvement of about Rs. 36 lakhs and there has been an advance in the expenditure by Rs. 20 lakhs, making allowance for the reduction of the subsidy by Rs. 10½ lakhs in 1928-29. The receipts under Part II in 1928-29 fully covered the expenditure chargeable to this group and left a surplus of about Rs. 5 lakhs. The expenditure under Service Heads in Part I is in advance of the revenues in that group by this amount and every endeavour will be made to bring about an equilibrium in this part, so that it may be possible to utilise the surplus in Part II for a larger expenditure upon development works.

Improvement of Pay and Prospects of Subordinate Services.

Government realise fully the great necessity for

some improvement in this direction. The question is as urgent as it is important, and we shall strive our utmost to find the means to solve it. As a proof of Government's desire to improve the lot of the low paid officials and the menial staffs, I may refer to the orders passed during the last three years sanctioning increases to the extent of Rs. 3 lakhs in the Revenue and other departments. Government have been able to revise the scales of pay of subordinate establishments in about thirty-three offices. As you are aware, some provision has been made in the current year's budget for the reorganisation of the Police Force, for the revision of the Land Revenue establishment and for increasing the pay of the staff of Special Magistrates' Courts. Government are conscious that this is hardly sufficient, but it was all that could be done. It is the hope of Government to raise the minimum wage of clerks and of teachers in the Education Department to Rs. 25 a month. The pay of the constabulary has to be increased to at least Rs. 15 in the case of the District Police and to three or four rupees more for the City Police. All this will mean a large recurring expenditure—perhaps some 10 lakhs a year—and it will be some time before we can find this money, but I cherish the hope that it will be found much sooner than we have dared to think. Those concerned may be sure of our determination to help them as soon as it is found possible to do so.

It should, however, be borne in mind that if there is to be any substantial improvement in the rates of pay, the question of effecting possible reduction in the strength of the services will have to be considered as part of the same problem. There is a general tendency for establishments to grow, and if attempts are not made to reduce the number of posts, as occasion arises, it will be very difficult to raise the minimum or to give incremental rates of pay.

Toll-Gates.

In response to the repeated requests, made in both the Legislative Council and the Representative Assembly, all country carts except those that carry timber for commercial purposes have been exempted from the payment of toll at all the newly established interior provincial toll-gates. The question of getting refund from the Government of India of the petrol tax now paid by Mysore is under correspondence.

Land Revenue.

A scheme for the recruitment and training of Revenue Inspectors was sanctioned in April 1929.

On the recommendation of a special committee appointed to go into the question of the revision of the pay and prospects of the revenue establishments, orders have been issued sanctioning the revision of the scales of pay of officials drawing Rs. 50 and below. One hundred posts—15 in District and 85 in Taluk offices—have been abolished. A uniform scale of pay has been sanctioned for the several appointments so that an interchange of officials, whenever necessary, may easily be effected.

The Bangalore Taluk was bifurcated and a separate Amildar was appointed for Bangalore City for a period of two years in order to facilitate despatch of work. Closepet and Koratagere Sub-Taluks were converted into *pucca* taluks with effect from 1st July 1928 and 1st January 1929 respectively. The pay and status of the Revenue Inspectors were improved, and a reduction of 15 hoblies was effected from 1st October 1929.

Village Panchayets.

From the information furnished in Part II, you will see that this scheme is gaining in popularity. Village and District Panchayet Conferences were held and were largely attended by delegates. As a tentative measure, Government have directed the abolition of the Village Panchayet Inspectors' posts in the districts of Kolar and Chitaldrug, their work being entrusted to the Revenue Inspectors. Some villages in each hobli were selected for being made "model" villages, and special attention was bestowed upon them so that they might serve as examples to other panchayets. A Village Panchayet Court has been organised in connection with the Dasara Exhibition of this year, wherein all conditions of village life are represented.

Bhadravati Iron Works.

Sir M. Visvesvaraya has retired from the Board of Management of the Bhadravati Iron Works and his place has been taken by Rajakaryaprasakta Diwan Bahadur Mr. M. N. Krishna Rao, who is the Member in charge of the Forest, Industries and Geological and Mining Departments.

Sir M. Visvesvaraya undertook this responsibility at a

very critical time at the special request of Government. By his retirement the Works have sustained a great loss. The debt which they owe to him and his unremitting devotion to their interests during the period of his chairmanship can scarcely be overstated. He worked with a zeal and self-sacrifice characteristic of him. I feel sure that you will all join me in this expression of sincere appreciation of his services, and of deep gratitude to him for placing the Works on their present basis.

Sir M. Visvesvaraya laboured for 6½ long years in the interest of the Works without rest and without remuneration. He travelled all over Europe and America at his own expense to make a special study of such works in those continents. It is not possible to acknowledge in adequate terms work and devotion of this kind.

It is hardly necessary for me to give an assurance to this House, on behalf of my esteemed colleague, Mr. Krishna Rao, that no effort will be spared by him to continue with undiminished faith and vigour, the good work that has been accomplished so far at Bhadravati. We must feel grateful to him for assuming this additional burden of responsibility. I am sure I echo your sentiment when I wish him all the success which, I know, he will deserve in his difficult task.

Sandal Oil Factories.

Recent experience having called attention to the defects in the arrangement that existed till recently of entrusting the sale of sandal oil to private agents, Government deputed Mr. N. Madhava Rau to make a close investigation of the entire question in England and America, and to formulate proposals for the realisation of the moneys due to Government, and for the adequate safeguarding of the sandal oil business. Reports have been received from him from time to time, and action has been taken upon them. He has completed his work in America and is at present engaged in London in investigating certain problems requiring solution there.

I may, in this connection, invite the attention of the Assembly to an administrative measure which, though primarily suggested by the requirements of the sandal oil business, has, as it has finally developed, a very important bearing on the trade interests of the State in general. I refer to the appointment of a Trade Commissioner for Mysore in London. This officer will, in addition to duties connected with the sandal oil business, be entrusted with

functions of great importance to the development of the industries and commerce of the State. He is expected to study closely the exports and imports of the State and furnish proposals in regard to the manner in which our transactions could be conducted to the best advantage. He is required to investigate the extent to which existing markets for Mysore products can be extended, and the possibility of supplying the requirements of foreign countries by the development of industries for which Mysore enjoys natural advantages. He is also to keep in touch, as far as may be possible, with scientific and technical improvements in manufacturing methods and report such of them as are likely to be useful in connection with the industries of the State. He has been entrusted with the task of collecting commercial and industrial information which has a bearing on our existing or potential industries and of making it available for Mysore enterprise. The establishment of the Trade Commissioner's Office thus creates great opportunities of furthering the commercial interests of the State, and I trust our industrial and commercial men will not be slow to profit by them.

Irrigation Works.

Appreciable progress was made in the construction, restoration and repairs of both Major and Minor Irrigation Works. The Bhadra Anicut was completed, and the anicut across the Bhrugu river in the Heggaddevankote Taluk is nearing completion. Among other important works in progress may be mentioned the construction of a reservoir near Anjanapur, and of tanks at Thumbadi, Nidasale and Bidadi, at a total cost of Rs. 26 lakhs, and the restoration of the Niduva tank in Nagamangala Taluk. The construction of a tank across the Vrishabhavati near Kamasamudram has recently been started. This work will cost Rs. 2 lakhs. Fresh triennial programmes for Major and Minor Irrigation Works are under preparation. The Government of India have communicated their willingness, on behalf of the Civil and Military Station, to participate in the new scheme for the supply of water to Bangalore, and arrangements will be made to put the work in hand soon. I anticipate an enormous increase to the growth and prosperity of Bangalore as a direct result of this scheme.

The expenditure under all heads in the Krishnarajasagara Works amounted to Rs. 45,51,699.

The excavation of the Irwin Canal made good progress

during the year. The tunnel was bored to a length of nearly 4,000 feet against a total length of nearly 9,300 feet. The total expenditure on the canal works was nearly Rs. 40 lakhs. It is anticipated that canals will be ready for irrigating 30,000 acres by June 1931. It may also be possible to irrigate a further area of 50,000 acres; or in all 80,000 acres, by about the year 1936.

It has been proposed to adopt an improved method of irrigation by the introduction of a system of triennial rotation of crops, and to develop cultivation of sugarcane to as large an extent as possible under the canal. Special measures and sustained efforts are necessary for handling the irrigation problems arising in this connection and Government are devoting close attention to the problems involved with a view to the rapid development of irrigation in the area.

It may be mentioned here that steps have also been taken to secure further extension of cultivation under the existing channel systems to the extent permissible under the agreement with the Madras Government.

The dispute which was pending settlement with the Madras Government, regarding the interpretation of certain rules of the Agreement of 1924, was settled by compromise through the good offices of the Hon'ble Mr. S. E. Pears, the Resident, and the arbitrator, the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Page of the Calcutta High Court.

Railways.

The traffic control and working of the narrow gauge stations at Bangalore City and Bowringpet have been taken over from the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Company by the Mysore Railways from 1st August 1929.

Construction work on the Ragihosahalli-Arasalu section, a distance of 7½ miles, is in progress.

Traffic surveys of the following lines are to be undertaken during the year :—

1. Mysore-Coorg.
2. French Rocks to Nittur *via* Nagamangala
3. Chintamani to Dodkurgod.
4. Chickballapur to Chakarlapalli *via* Bagepalli.
5. Kolar to Mulbagal.
6. Maddur to Kollegal.

Through train services between Mysore and Shimoga, with running power between Arsikere and Birur, were introduced from 1st October 1928. An extra passenger train on

Chickjajur-Chitaldrug Railway and an additional mixed train service between Bangalore and Maddur were also introduced during the year. The Tarikere-Narasimharajapura Tramway was opened for through booking of goods traffic from 1st April 1929. Out-agencies were opened at Gundlupet and Gudulur from 1st January 1929 for receipt and despatch of parcels and goods in local and through booking.

Through train service between Mysore and Hubli *via* Guntakal, and between Mysore and Poona *via* Bangalore, will be introduced from 20th October 1929. Our night Passenger trains (Nos. 3 Up and 4 Down) will run to Poona and Mail Trains (Nos. 1 Up and 2 Down) will go direct to Hubli *via* Guntakal. It is hoped that this will add greatly to public convenience and improve punctuality of service.

An Advisory Committee for the Mysore Railways, similar to the Advisory Committees on other Railways in India, was appointed during the year.

Electric Department.

During the year under report there were 256 additions to power installations and 1,136 to lighting installations. Every facility is being afforded to the raiyats to instal power-driven pumps for irrigation purposes and the concessions allowed in this connection are being utilised in increasing measure. There were 107 pumping installations in service at the end of the year against 55 in the previous year. Power was supplied to Channapatna, Nanjangud, Closepet and Seringapatam and the electrification of the following towns is in progress:—Kolar, Tumkur, Malvalli, Dodballapur, Chikballapur, Devanhalli and Sidlaghatta. Sanction has also been accorded for the electrification of Mandya and Anekal towns, and the work will be taken up in the near future. Power has been supplied to Metur since 23rd November 1928. The Chief Electrical Engineer and his staff are to be complimented on the very expeditious and satisfactory manner in which the work was executed.

The Automatic Telephone is being introduced in Bangalore and Mysore Cities, and between them, and it will be open to the public before the end of this month.

Agriculture.

There is a growing demand for agricultural instruction, of the grades respectively provided for at Hebbal and in the Vernacular Agricultural Schools.

The splitting up of the Eastern Division into two circles has improved the efficiency of supervision over District work. The District staff has been increased and there are now roughly one Agricultural Inspector and two Fieldmen for every two taluks in the State.

The demand for improved implements has generally increased, and 2,000 improved ploughs were sold by the Department alone during the year as against 1,600 in the previous year. There was also a large demand for improved sugar-cane and paddy seed. The Co-operative Societies and Panchayets have increasingly helped in the work of the Department, and the supplying of implements, seeds and manures was entirely handed over to Co-operative Societies in the Anekal and Goribidnur Taluks.

A scheme for the establishment of an Agricultural Colony under the Bhadra Channel has been sanctioned, and work will be started shortly.

The whole question of the improvement of live-stock in the State was referred to a committee and its report is under consideration.

Civil Veterinary Department.

The main feature of the work of the Department during the year was the very intensive campaign carried on to control rinderpest, black quarter, and other infectious diseases. The number of preventive inoculations against these diseases rose from 101,098 in 1927-28 to 268,077 in 1928-29. Five new Veterinary Dispensaries were opened at Belur, Pavagada, Heggaddevankote, Hiriyur and Devanhalli.

Two Assistant Superintendents have been appointed to conduct research work on cattle and sheep, and a beginning has been made in connection with the study of some important cattle diseases.

Education.

The following are some of the more important events in connection with Education in the State during the year:—

(1) Opening of Municipal High Schools at Sagar, Dodballapur and Chintamani on a grant-in-aid basis to meet the growing demand for High School education. Two more High Schools on the same lines have been opened during the current year at Malvalli and Hole-

Narsipur, in acceptance of the principle that where local bodies come forward with proposals within their financial ability to provide for High School education, Government permit them to do so and contribute a certain proportion of the cost, subject to the maintenance of a certain standard of efficiency.

(2) Extension of the scheme of medical inspection of pupils in schools.

(3) Constitution of a separate Training Institution for women.

(4) Enhancement by Rs. 50,000 of the provision for scholarships to encourage students of the Backward communities.

(5) Opening of an Adi-Karnataka Girls' Boarding Middle School at Bangalore.

(6) Grant of Rs. 15,000 for 1928-29 for the construction of school buildings in rural areas where contributions have been paid by the people.

During the year under report, Government passed orders rectifying certain defects noticed in the matter of the control of primary education in the cities of Bangalore and Mysore. According to these orders the management of primary education in the cities by the Municipalities will be subject to the condition that the general rules and regulations laid down by the Department in the case of grant-in-aid institutions, in respect of qualifications, adequacy of staff, accommodation, equipment, curricula, text-books, minimum standard of attainments, school terms, holidays, vacations, hours of work, conduct of teachers and pupils, etc., are complied with in the case of primary schools in their charge.

In view of the popularity of charka classes and the representation made by local bodies and the Representative Assembly for the introduction of this subject in schools, Government have sanctioned the continuance of the ten charka classes already opened and the introduction of such classes in ten other rural middle schools.

Compulsory vaccination of school children before admission to schools has been ordered as an experimental measure.

The University.

An additional grant of Rs. 15,000 was made to the University during the year for Backward Class Scholarships and this enabled the University to award a total of 299

scholarships. It is stated that the demand for more scholarships for Backward Classes has been met to a considerable extent.

One other important measure which requires notice is the enhancement of fees both for tuition and for examinations. The introduction of the Intermediate Scheme has added considerably to the expenditure. With a fixed annual grant, the responsibility of finding ways and means to meet this expenditure devolves on the University. A committee of seven gentlemen, including representatives of the Senate, the University Council and the Colleges, was appointed by the Senate to consider the question of enhancement of fees and it submitted a unanimous report recommending a higher scale of fees. This was approved by the Senate, and duly sanctioned by Government.

It may be noted here that in the older Indian Universities, *i.e.*, the old Presidency or new Provincial Universities of a self-contained type, to which our State University bears an affinity, the fees are much higher than those now sanctioned.

Land Mortgage Banks.

In April 1928, Government sanctioned the opening of a Central Land Mortgage Bank at Bangalore, its operations being confined to the *malnad* taluks of Sagar, Koppa and Manjarabad and the *maidan* taluk of Tumkur, and entrusted the general supervision and control over the operations of the Bank to the Director of Industries and Commerce

In view, however, of the recommendation of the Royal Commission on Agriculture, as also in response to the general desire expressed by the members of the Legislative Council and the Representative Assembly, Government decided to bring the proposed land mortgage institution within the purview of the Mysore Co-operative Societies' Regulation, and the latter was suitably amended to admit of this being done. As the Registrar of Co-operative Societies had his hands full, Government created the appointment of a Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies to work out the details connected with the Bank.

A Central Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank will very shortly be established in Bangalore under the management of a strong Board of Directors. The bye-laws of the Bank have been drawn up and are under the consideration of Government and action is being taken to collect the capital required.

Industries and Commerce.

The Government Soap Factory, the Central Industrial Workshop, the Government Weaving Factory, the Workshop Section of the Chamarajendra Technical Institute and the District Workshop at Shimoga have worked at a profit during the year. The Soap Factory manufactured 170 tons of soap during the year and the sales amounted to a little over 2¼ lakhs of rupees. All the important work in connection with the Metur Transmission Line was carried out in the Central Industrial Workshop, which also made three power drills of a pattern which hitherto could only be obtained from abroad and at a much greater cost.

Sir Alfred Chatterton's scheme for the cultivation of sugar-cane under the Krishnarajasagara is being investigated by a special committee. One of the important recommendations made by him is the erection of an up-to-date weaving plant in the Government Weaving Factory for the development of silk weaving.

The Department put down twenty bore-holes of an aggregate depth of 1,855 feet in different parts of the State. Eighteen of the bore-holes were successful. These operations have shown the practicability of utilising our underground water resources to supply the needs of small towns and villages. It is proposed to manufacture ten power drills at the Central Industrial Workshop this year.

Rules were introduced for the levy of fees for inspection and erection of industrial installations by the officers of the Department. As the number of applications for this purpose has been increasing, the mechanical staff attached to the Department was strengthened.

The Workmen's Compensation Regulation was brought into operation during the year and the provisions of the Factories Regulation are being vigorously enforced.

Rules were published at the end of last year under the amended Weights and Measures Regulation making provision for the compulsory use of certified weights and measures in defined areas. It is proposed to introduce this compulsory system for the present in Bangalore, Mysore and Davangere, and arrangements have been made for the supply of certified measures and weights before these rules are brought into operation.

Drinking-water Wells.

Perhaps the most urgent need of the country is an adequate supply of good drinking water. Nothing can be

more pathetic than the sight of an entire village, going out pot in hand to a precarious well or water-hole miles away, and spending a whole morning in securing a scanty supply of questionable water. The lot of the Depressed classes is specially pitiable. The evils are accentuated in seasons of insufficient rainfall, when, as likely as not, all near sources of water run dry.

Since good drinking water is the first requisite of health and physical efficiency, no scheme of development would be complete which did not include a programme for providing it.

Government has done much but its action is necessarily limited by its resources. There is also an inevitable element of chance in well-sinking, which makes failures costly and even achievement often disproportionate to expenditure. But this risk has to be taken, for what would not a man give for water when he needs it? It is, of course, necessary to eliminate costliness from failure, as far as possible, and to adopt all methods of opening up sources of supply that the progress of science makes available. Recent experience has shown that bore-holes provide an effective way of dealing with the problem; their cost is much less than that of an ordinary well; they can be put down into rock to a depth which would be impracticable with a well; and if successful, they furnish a supply of fresh potable water free from all contamination. In some places, notably in Tiptur, bore-holes have been drilled which yield about 1,000 gallons an hour, and bid fair to provide an easy practical solution of an acute and hitherto baffling problem. Our geologists tell us that there is hardly any part of the State where it is not possible to tap underground supplies of water. It is not improbable that bore-holes will be found specially useful in the interior villages of the *malnad* which, strange as it may seem, suffer from a chronic insufficiency of drinking water. As I have already said, we are making in our own workshop, at a considerable saving in cost, power drilling outfits as good as any that are imported.

The problem is so important and so far-reaching in its implications, that I feel it ought not to be left to the annual chance of funds being available from State revenues, but that it should be taken up for systematic treatment on a definite policy.

The time seems to be ripe for considering how such a policy can be evolved. It is the duty of Government and of local bodies to prepare a programme such as will ensure that, within a reasonable time, say in ten years,

every village has an adequate supply of drinking water. The best way of attacking this problem is probably the same as has been recommended for dealing with the other outstanding problem of our time, that of elementary education. I shall not go further into the matter just now. I have generally indicated my views, and trust that you will bring your minds to bear on the problem, and help in devising means for its solution.

Sericulture.

The Sericultural Department distributed 7¼ lakhs of disease-free layings to seed rearers and others during the year. It is gratifying to note that the scheme of aided grainages has been taken up with enthusiasm by those concerned and about three lakhs of disease-free layings were distributed by these grainages during the year. The Mysore Domestic Basin is appreciated by sericulturists, and about ten installations are working at present in different parts of the State. The Mysore Filature was extended by the addition of ten basins and it is proposed to remove the Filature to a more suitable building at the Farm. Sericultural loans to the extent of Rs. 5,050 were sanctioned during the year.

Judicial.

The scheme of itinerating Special Magistrates, which was tried with success in certain selected localities, was further extended from 1st June 1929, and the Bench Courts at the places thus visited were abolished.

The First Magistrate, Kolar, and the Judge of the Court of Small Causes, Bangalore, have been appointed Additional Subordinate Judges to dispose of civil appeals referred to them by the District Judge of the Bangalore Division, and it is proposed to assign similar work to the First Class Magistrates of Hassan and Chitaldrug. The combination of Civil, Judicial and Magisterial functions is being tried at Hole-Narsipur and it is proposed to invest the Munsiff at Narasimharajapura with the powers of a Second Class Magistrate. The question of further extending this arrangement, wherever possible, is engaging the attention of the Chief Court.

Police.

An additional Superintendent of Police for Bangalore City and Taluk was sanctioned in September 1928. It has

been decided to increase the minimum pay of Police constables from Rs. 12 to Rs. 13 per month.

The strength of the District Reserves having been reduced in the year 1923 by 16 Daffedars and 109 men, the Police Force in the districts has been found inadequate to cope with difficult situations, and the deficiency has had to be met by despatching detachments of the Provincial Reserve at Bangalore. To meet such emergencies the strength of the Provincial Reserve was augmented temporarily by 50 constables in April last and by another 100 constables at the beginning of the current official year. These 150 constables have now been placed on a permanent footing. The armed emergency sections of the District Reserves have been combined with the Provincial Reserve Force, the former being regarded as detachments of the Reserve Force. A proper redistribution of these detachments is also receiving attention. It is further proposed to place an officer of the rank of Assistant Superintendent of Police in charge of the Provincial Reserve, and the addition of nine subordinate officers to this force has also been sanctioned.

Medical.

The number of medical institutions opened during the year 1928-29 was twenty-two, the largest annual figure for several years. Local Fund Dispensaries on a reduced scale of expenditure were opened in parts of the Mysore, Tumkur, Hassan and Chitaldrug Districts.

The question of instituting an anti-tuberculosis campaign in cities and towns as a result of Dr. Chandrasekhar's investigation is receiving attention. The provisions of the Leper Regulation were extended to Mandya and Malvalli Taluks. Additional accommodation for the Leper Asylum was sanctioned and an out-patient dispensary was also opened. The number of cases treated during the year increased from 151 to 245.

Sanitation and Vaccination.

During the year under report a whole-time Sanitary Commissioner was appointed to cope with the growing activities of the Department and the post of Deputy Sanitary Commissioner was abolished.

The need for compilation of statistics of births and deaths on a uniform, scientific and intelligent basis has long been felt, and with a view to improving the present method

of registration of vital statistics and obtaining reliable figures from the 16,568 villages in the State, a Bureau of Vital Statistics has been created, and a Vital Statistician was appointed on 1st July 1928. His preliminary report is being published as a Health Department bulletin. In December 1928, an All-State Medical and Sanitary Conference was held, for the first time, in Bangalore. Proposals for the appointment of three Inspecting Health Officers, organisation of a Mobile Epidemic Unit, State Child Welfare Work, and introduction of compulsory vaccination in rural areas, and the question of evolving suitable types of latrines for rural areas, are some of the more important matters which engaged the attention of the Department during the year.

Health Survey.

As a result of the spleen survey conducted by Dr. Sweet, three malaria experimental stations were established at Nagenhalli (Mysore Taluk), Mudgere and Hiriyur. From the examinations conducted so far, Dr. Sweet expects to institute definite control measures almost immediately.

Government have also sanctioned the opening of a Rural Health Unit with a view to determining the staff, equipment, and budget, necessary for organising eventually Health Units in all taluks.

The Rockefeller Foundation have kindly agreed to lend the services of a Sanitary Engineer for a period of three years, with effect from 1st January 1930, in addition to the services of Dr. W. C. Sweet already lent by them. It is proposed to transfer the Sanitary Engineering section of the Public Works Department to the control of the Sanitary Engineer.

Town and Village Improvement.

You are aware that, about three years ago, a small establishment was attached to the Sanitary Department for rendering assistance to local bodies in town planning and for furnishing them with schemes for the improvement of sanitation, drainage and water supply. Government devote annually about Rs. 1¼ lakhs to these works in the districts.

The facilities offered by Government have been largely utilised by Municipalities as can be seen from the fact that nearly a thousand plans and projects have been prepared for them. Extension of towns is among the objects which receive the greatest amount of attention. Nor has the

aesthetic side of town improvement been lost sight of, as can be judged from the number of parks that have been opened and the manner in which sites have been allotted for public buildings.

Nine important towns, including two headquarters of districts, have been given a drinking water supply during the last five years and water supply projects have been given to 17 other places. Plans have been furnished to local bodies for laying out extensions, shandy grounds, and model villages, and for building model houses, markets, etc., and it may be said that the sanitary and town planning activities have evoked a most gratifying response from the people. If progress continues at this rate, it will not be long before we shall have every reason to be proud of our villages. I regard the condition of the villages as the acid test of good administration.

Local Self-Government.

May I say a word here on the subject of Local Self-Government? I had occasion to refer to it recently and I may repeat here that it is the settled policy of Government to encourage to the utmost extent the development of what I may, for convenience sake, call the autonomous institutions in the State, like village panchayets, municipalities and district boards. The more they can look after themselves the greater will be the relief to Government, the greater their pride and their own satisfaction. I can assure you that it is no pleasure to Government to interfere in their affairs, and if they do so, it is in the interests of the local bodies themselves.

As an indication of the liberal policy which they wish to pursue in regard to this matter, I may tell you that Government have decided to restore the privilege of electing its own president to the Bangalore City Municipality, the change coming into effect as soon as practicable. Government have further decided to grant the privilege of having elected non-official presidents for the District Boards of Mysore, Shimoga, Kadur, Tumkur and Chitaldrug. They have been encouraged to take this step by the successful manner in which the non-official presidents in other districts, which have enjoyed this privilege for some years, have discharged the duties of their office. There is no reason to think that the new arrangement will not be equally successful in these districts.

Conclusion.

That concludes my review of last year's activities and events.

Our main task, Gentlemen, is to make possible for every class of subjects the life of comfort and contentment. Let nothing distract us from the united performance of this great duty.